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LETTER DATED 12 AUGUST 1995 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter from His Excellency Dr. Radoje Kontić, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 12 August 1995 from the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council

The United Nations Security Council imposed unjust and rigid sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by adopting resolutions 752 (1992), 757 (1992), 787 (1992) and 820 (1993) based on false postulates. Although the Federal Government has requested the Security Council on several occasions to lift the sanctions, because the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has fulfilled all the requirements under resolutions 752 (1992) and 757 (1992), those requests have remained unheeded. Yugoslavia's continued and concrete contribution to the process of negotiation is considered by a large part of the international community as proof of its sincere and lasting orientation towards peace and a comprehensive political solution of the Yugoslav crisis.

It is absurd and unacceptable that although its peace efforts and policy have been recognized, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is being treated in the peace process as an adversary rather than a tested factor and, as a result of that approach, the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are still in place, having various appalling and devastating consequences for its innocent population.

The latest aggression of Croatia on a part of the Republic of Serbian Krajina has caused the exodus of the entire Serbian population of this area, which is the result of a policy of systematic ethnic cleansing of the Serbian population continuously pursued by the Croatian authorities.

Apart from 500,000 refugees from the former Croatia and the former Bosnia and Herzegovina who have sought refuge in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia so far, an additional 250,000 Serbs, victims of the Croatian ethnic cleansing in and aggression on the Republic of Serbian Krajina are coming to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. A humanitarian disaster of unprecedented proportions is taking place before the eyes of the entire world, which is also confirmed by the statements of the competent officials of international humanitarian organizations, causing not only humanitarian problems but exerting additional pressure on Yugoslavia's economy already exhausted by the sanctions. Under the burden of the sanctions, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not able to handle this enormous humanitarian tragedy successfully.

Most of the members of the international community are aware of all the absurdity of and damage caused by the continuation of the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which only encourages the proponents of the war option and brings the entire peace process into question.

Consequently, there exist no moral, legal, humane or any other reasons for maintaining the sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Therefore, Yugoslavia legitimately requests the United Nations Security Council urgently to adopt a decision on the unconditional lifting of the sanctions

imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in the interest of peace and international security as well as its own integrity and credibility.

Expecting that the Security Council will adopt such a decision at the earliest possible date, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Dr. Radoje KONTIĆ